

OPS

5 August 1981

Memorandum for: Director, FBIS

Through : Chief, Operations Group

Subject : Paraguay Bureau Monthly Report--July 1981

I. Operations

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Two presidents were selected in July in Paraguay Bureau's coverage area, causing considerable coverage:

Bolivia's President Garcia Meza secured approval for the extension of his term, however political storms which began to brew in Santa Cruz as the month ended compelled him to resign on 4 August. Uruguay, after seemingly interminable talks, selected retired General Gregorio Alvarez to be president during the "transitional" stage for the next 3 and 1/2 years.

2. Records show that Bureau publishable wordage (224,500) was 35% higher in July 1981 as compared to July 1980 (166,390).

3. After a 1-month sample of Paraguay Bureau's Peru file, the U.S. Embassy Lima asked for all FBIS items on Peru, prompting a new LSL service.

4. Long delays continue in receiving Uruguayan newspapers (an especially vexing problem now that the president is being changed). Inquiries to the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo have resulted in the embassy blaming the lag in deliveries on the Uruguayan Postal system. The Embassy has proposed to package and send the papers on a regular basis by the twice weekly Montevideo-Asunción express bus.

5. With the closure of the DEA Office at Post, the bureau has discontinued supplying the mission with drug-related items.

B. Communications

1. Buenos Aires LATIN experienced outages on two occasions totalling 10 hours and 2 minutes during July.

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2. Bureau primary communications were out for 4 hours and 30 minutes in July due to a malfunctioning power unit in the satellite antenna. Another outage of 1 hour 12 minutes occurred on 8 July due to unspecified problems [redacted]

[redacted] to Washington
3. Bureau experienced problems getting through/by Telex on two occasions in late June and early July. Headquarters found the problem at their end. Telex communications have since been tested and found normal. In order to detect early any similar problems, Paraguay Bureau plans to send test messages to Headquarters and Panama every two weeks.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Deputy Chief [redacted] and family departed PCS Washington on 9 July 1981.

2. Shift Supervisor [redacted] returned to the bureau following a TDY stint at Key West Bureau from 3 June-25 July 1981.

3. Bureau Administrative Assistant [redacted] gave birth to a daughter on 21 July.

4. Bureau driver [redacted] welcomed a new daughter on 28 June.

B. Visitors

Visitors to the bureau included: newly assigned Political Officer [redacted] and Acting Consul [redacted] on TDY from Montevideo.

[redacted]
Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau
Attd: Operations Attachment
Monthly Production Report
Monitor Production Report
Engineering Attachment
Paraguay Bureau Coverage Schedule, July 81